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STAT

SARGENT SHRIVER
. . . Corps off-limits

CIA's Secret Agreement

A secret pact, concluded in late 1961, has helped the Peace Corps remain immune to the controversy over the Central Intelligence Agency. Under that accord, concluded between former Peace Corps director R. Sargent Shriver and former CIA chief John McCone, the intelligence agency agreed to maintain a strict "hands-off" policy toward the Corps.

Although Peace Corps volunteers were not told about these arrangements, they automatically became ineligible for any CIA job for five years after they left the Corps. And anyone with an intelligence community background —even a sixth-month reservist who had been a code clerk for the Army's National Security Agency—was, and is, ineligible to join the Corps.

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